

Docket No.: 50023-129

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Tatsumi WATANABE, et al.

Serial No.: 09/725,946

Filed: November 30, 2000

: Customer Number: 20277

: Confirmation Number: [conf_no]

: Group Art Unit: 2622

: Examiner: not yet assign

For: **IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND RECORDING MEDIUM**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

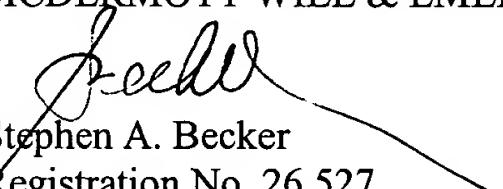
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.17(p), please charge the fee of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 500417.

Each non-English language reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION  (PTO-1449)				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 50023-129	SERIAL NO. 09/725,946	
				APPLICANT Tatsumi WATANABE, et al.		
				FILING DATE November 30, 2000	GROUP 2622	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		US				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number & Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation
	A2	EP 0 693 738	01/24/1996	Dainippon Screen Mfg. Co, Ltd		Yes
	A1	EP 0 606 781	07/20/1994	Canon Kabushiki Kaisha		No
	A2	EP 0 518 619	12/16/1992	Canon Kabushiki Kaisha		
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.